

20 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: "Where's What"

1. The foregoing will record action taken by the undersigned in connection with the request dated 7 May 1975 that I contact appropriate government agency contributors of the Subject book to ascertain if it is possible for us to declassify same. This memorandum will also record the sequence of events relating to this request and contains appropriate recommendations.

2. Prior to my receipt of this material, and unknown to me at the time, a request was received from Senator John V. Tunney for a copy of "Where's What?" by letter to the DCI, dated 21 April 1975. This request was initially coordinated by the Policy and Plans Group. I was not involved in the coordination of the material until on or about 29 May 1975, when at the request of [REDACTED], I met with the latter and [REDACTED] OLC, regarding Senator Tunney's request, and the DCI's comments related to the initial recommendation for the handling thereof. I met with [REDACTED] on at least two subsequent occasions subsequent to the preparation of the reply to the DCI Senator Tunney dated 24 June 1975 (a copy of that memorandum is attached).

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3. On 27 June 1975, I was advised that the Office of Security had received a F.O.I.A. request for a copy of the book from one George Pipkin, Center for National Security Studies, Washington, D. C. (Pipkin is associated with Morton Halperin, et al). It is understood that Mr. Pipkin was initially informed that the publication was classified "Confidential", consistent with the DCI's response to Senator Tunney. It is further understood that the F.O.I.A. requestor has contested our reply.

4. In accordance with previous instructions, and consistent with the Agency's response to Senator Tunney, the undersigned contacted the following Agencies on the dates indicated to ascertain if they had any objection to declassifying their contributions to the Subject book:

ERDA (formerly AEC), 2 June 1975;
FBI, 2 June 1975; I&NS 4 June 1975

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The rationale for limiting such contacts is based on information that the author of "Where's What?" made a commitment to the FBI and AEC that the information furnished by these Agencies would be protected by the confidential classification.

5. On 19 June 1975, Dr. Reichardt, Chief, Classification Section, ERDA, advised that ERDA interposed no objections of the declassification of the book, in so far as it pertains to ERDA. After repeated attempts to get a decision from the FBI, Mr. Vern Weimer advised the undersigned, on 19 August 1975, that no objection would be interposed to the declassification of the section on the FBI in "Where's What?". At that time, Mr. Weimer requested four or five additional copies for use by the FBI training academy. On 20 August 1975, Mr. Ernie Matson, Chief, Classification Section, I&NS, advised that I&NS interposed no objection to the declassification of the information pertaining to that Agency (beginning on page 228 and ending on page 250).

6. By a copy of this memorandum, the Chief, Policy and Plans Group is advised that there appears to be no obstacles to the declassification of the Subject book in connection with the F.O.I.A. request.

7. Unless advised to the contrary, the undersigned plans to take no action to advise the recipients of the one thousand copies of the Subject book that we have declassified same, other than the FBI, ERDA, and I&NS. It is believed that this is the preferable course of action, at this time, and that if and when any of the other recipients contact us, we should tell them, at that time, that it has been declassified.

8. I will attempt to locate four or five additional copies for the FBI unless advised to the contrary.

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